

## From close listening to distant listening: Developing tools for Speech-Music discrimination of Danish music radio

Iben Have <ibenhave\_at\_cc\_dot\_au\_dot\_dk>, Aarhus University

Kenneth Enevoldsen <kenneth\_dot\_enevoldsen\_at\_cas\_dot\_au\_dot\_dk>, Aarhus University

### Abstract

Digitization has changed flow music radio. Competition from music streaming services like Spotify and iTunes has to a large extent outperformed traditional playlist radio, and the global dissemination of software generated playlists in public service radio stations in the 1990s has superseded the passionate music radio host. But digitization has also changed the way we can do research in radio. In Denmark digitization of almost all radio programming back to 1989, have made it possible to actually listen to the archive to investigate how radio content has changed historically. This article investigates the research question: *How has the distribution of music and talk on the Danish Broadcasting Corporation's radio channel P3 developed 1989-2019* by comparing a qualitative case study with a new large-scale study. Methodologically this shift from a close listening to a few programs to large-scale distant listening to more than 65,000 hours of radio enables us to discuss and critically compare the methods, results, strengths and shortcomings of the two analysis. Previous studies have demonstrated that Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) trained for image recognition of spectrograms of the audio outperforms alternative approaches, such as Support Vector Machines (SVMs). The large-scale study presented shows that the CNN-based approach generalizes well, even without fine-tuning, to speech and music classification in Danish radio, with an overall accuracy of 98%.

## 1: Introduction

In the collective research project, *A Century of Radio and Music in Denmark* financed by the Independent Research Fund Denmark (2013-2018), eleven researchers investigated the present status and the historical development of Danish public music radio. The project demonstrated, among many other things, how digitization has changed the flow of music radio in several ways. Competition from music streaming services like Spotify and iTunes challenges traditional playlist radio, and the dissemination of software-generated playlists in public service radio stations in the 1990s has superseded the passionate music radio host [Have 2018] [Krogh 2018] [Wallevik 2018] (see also [Dubber 2014]). As opposed to music radio, talk radio is experiencing an increasing popularity in synergy with on-demand podcast formats. And while music radio channels are bleeding listeners, these years national governments and public debates around the world discuss whether music radio should still be viewed as a public service and receive public funding [Michelsen et al. 2018b].

As a part of the Danish research project, Have investigated the hypothesis that there has been a development from recorded music being the most important content to an increasing emphasis on spoken words (chattering hosts, news etc.) on Danish public service music radio. This hypothesis was tested, discussed, and to some extent also confirmed, in a qualitative study of five case studies of the most popular Danish morning music show on the radio channel P3 in the period 1989-2016 [Have 2018]. P3 is a public service music radio channel broadcasted nationwide in Denmark and the equivalent of, for example, the Swedish P3, the Norwegian P3 and the British BBC Radio 1. In this article we investigate this hypothesis from a quantitative perspective, by extending the data from five case studies to 65,000 hours of music radio at P3.

Digitization is not only changing radio but it is also paving the way for new areas of radio research. Radio archives are

1

2

being digitized all over the world as a part of a preservation policy regarding cultural heritage and some of these archives allow access for researchers. Even if archive politics are becoming more user-friendly, there is still a need for developing tools for engaging with the overwhelming amounts of material in the audio archives [Michelsen et al. 2018b, 9]. Access to digital archives has changed radio studies and media studies in general. First, by making it possible to actually listen deeply to the archive and investigate how radio content and expression have changed historically and thereby also enabling corrections and rewriting of existing radio history [Michelsen et al. 2018a]. Humanities scholars are skilled and have many tools at hand in doing deep hermeneutic and aesthetic content analysis. But the existing digital archives and improvement of metadata also opens open up new possibilities of large-scale analysis and enables us to listen both closely and at distance to the archive.

3

The terms close and distant listening are inspired by Franco Moretti's concept of distant reading [Moretti 2013]; in this article these terms will refer to two different methodological approaches to audio analysis. By close listening we understand a human sensorial listening, manual registering, and hermeneutic interpretation of audio material. The strength of this method is the possibility to dive deeply and detailed into the data, which require a limited amount of material, which in this context means a few selected radio programs. Distant listening, on the other hand, refer to a methodology where computational models are developed to do the "listening" for you, so to speak, because the amount of data is too big for human sensorial processing. The strength is here the width in listening to a huge amount of radio programs in the archive focusing on simple categories such as music and speech.

4

In sound studies the term "deep listening" has previously been used to describe a concentrated and contemplative listening mode [Bull and Back 2003] and Charles Bernstein has used the term in relation to poetry analysis (1998). Tanya Clement has introduced the term distant listening, as we use it here, as a methodological term in digital humanities to describe large-scale machine-processing of audio data [Clement 2012] [Clement 2016] [Clement et al. 2013] [Mustazza 2018]. Large-scale analysis of audio data is still quite rare in Digital Humanities compared to textual and visual analysis. Most of the existing audio analysis deal with recordings of text associated with the field of literary studies. In Musicology the field of Music Information Retrieval (MIR) has been growing the last few years as a part of the broader field of Audio Content Analysis (ACA)<sup>[1]</sup>, but in Media Studies large-scale audio analysis are still rare.

5

The present study's point of departure is the Danish digital radio archive and digital infrastructure LARM.fm, which gives access to almost two million digitized Danish radio programs. No tool has yet been developed for large-scale analysis of the archive, and one of the ambitions behind the project presented in this article is to demonstrate a way to do just that. Thus, the aim of the article is twofold: 1) To describe the methodological process and challenges for developing a model for large-scale Speech-Music discrimination analysis on audio data to answer the research question *How has the distribution of music and talk on the Danish Broadcasting Corporation's radio channel P3 developed (1989-2019)?* 2) To discuss and critically compare the methods, results, strengths and shortcomings of the qualitative case study and the large-scale analysis, respectively.

6

In the following we will first present the LARM.fm archive that serves as the basis for both studies. After that we shortly present the analogue hand-held case study first presented in the article "A Lost Link between Music and Hosts: The Development of a Morning Music-Radio Show" [Have 2018] — we will call it *the case study* in this article. Hereafter we present the new big data study — *the large-scale study* — in relation to methodological processes and challenges and analytical results. In the section that follows we discuss and compare the two studies and the strengths and weaknesses of *close listening* and *distant listening* methodologies, and the article ends with a short conclusion.

7

## 2: LARM.fm a digital archive and infrastructure

LARM.fm was originally developed by the research project LARM Audio Research Archive (2010-2014), which was a collaboration between 10 research and cultural institutions funded by the Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Science. Since 2015 LARM.fm has formed part of the national project DIGHUMLAB, [www.dighumlab.org](http://www.dighumlab.org). The infrastructure was then recreated on the present HTML5 platform, and the platform was expanded to also include TV [Have and Nielsen 2016, 2].

8

Since 1987 Denmark have had legal deposit of all broadcast material to the Royal Danish Library which is included in the Danish Media Collection. From 2005 onwards, this material has been exclusively born-digital and almost all analogue programs from 1989 to 2005 have been digitized. Due to legal protection the Media Collection is only available to the public through on site computers at the libraries. However, an agreement between The Danish Agency for Culture and the copyright holders allows university faculty and students to stream, but not to download, the material through the library's platform Mediestream or LARM.fm.

9

As opposed to Mediestream LARM.fm also contains older material from the archives of the Danish Broadcasting Corporation (Danmark's Radio or DR in the following), dating back to 1925, when the national radio was launched in Denmark. The old material is incomplete and consists mostly of text documents, as many programs were not saved, and others (still) have not been digitized [Have and Nielsen 2016, 3]. Besides access, LARM.fm also provides various search tools and opportunities for organizing, annotating and sharing material.

10

The amount of available material grows proportionally as new Danish radio and TV programs are broadcasted in Danish media. In November 2019 the collection consisted of more than three million radio and TV programs and more than 200,000 OCR-scanned PDF files .

11

Titel	Type	Titel	Kanal	Udsendelsesdato
Taggart: En ben for de døde			DR2	22/10/2019 23:55
Rejsen mod oprøret - Sherin Khankan			DR2	22/10/2019 23:55
Krop umulig Down Under			TV2	22/10/2019 23:44
Kemohjerne			TV2	22/10/2019 23:20
Mik Schacks Public Service			DR1	22/10/2019 23:20
Hvem vil være millionær?			TV2 Charlie	22/10/2019 23:14
Giver det mening ifølge Torben Chris			DR1	22/10/2019 23:12
Saudi-Arabiens kronprins: Vegen til magten			DR2	22/10/2019 23:06
Kemohjerne			TV2	22/10/2019 23:05
Datolinjen			Radio247	22/10/2019 23:05
Loppe Deluxe			TV2 Fri	22/10/2019 23:03

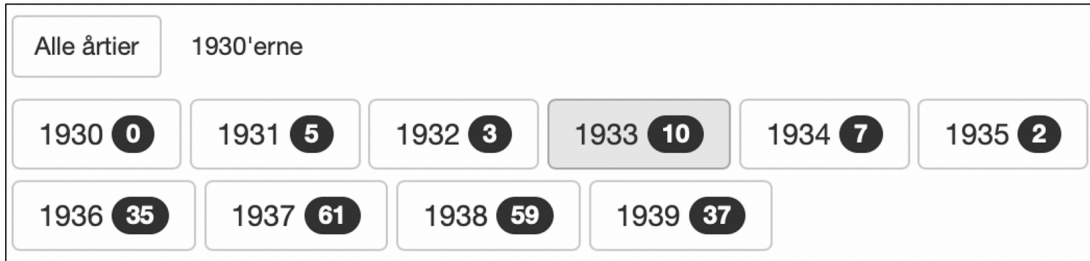
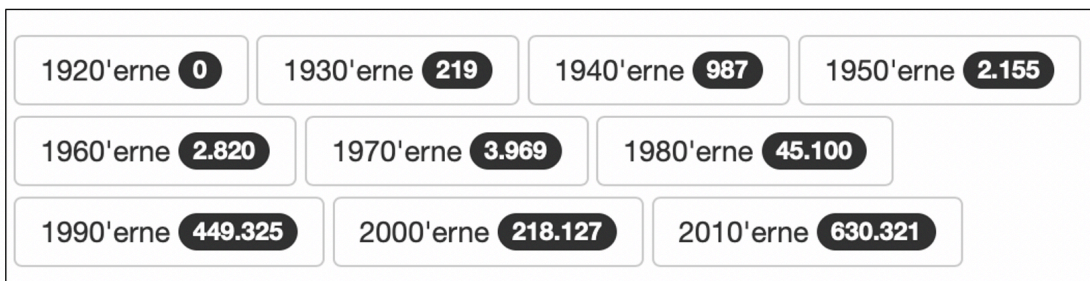
Figure 1. A segment of the interface of LARM.fm (November 2019) with searching tools and list of content at the left and a list of the files at the right side.

As shown in Figure 1 (left column) the material is arranged according to type: TV programs, Radio programs, Radio news reports, Radio news manuscripts, Program guides, Radio news guides. Radio- and TV programs are available for streaming the other types of material consist of PDF files containing OCR-scanned documents — some handwritten and others typed or printed.

12

The oldest radio program in the archive is from 22 May 1931 and lasts just over five minutes. As illustrated in Figure 2b there are 10 or fewer programs from the first five years and between 35 and 61 programs from the remaining years in the 1930s.<sup>[2]</sup>

13



**Figure 2.** Overview of the collection of radio programs available for streaming in the LARM.fm archive, by November 9 2019, divided by decades and number of files shown in the black areas. Notice the relatively low number of the 2000s compared to the 1990s, reflecting a lack of files in this period. Bottom: the result of clicking at the 1930s showing the distribution of years. And the drill down process can continue to months and days.

LARM.fm has expanded Danish radio research towards deep and detailed content analysis of first-hand sources, which has been requested not only in Danish radio research but internationally within media studies, where radio studies used to be characterized by institutional and media systemic analysis [Michelsen et al. 2018b]. Research access to archives and digital tools such as LARM.fm makes it possible to do deeply and broadly contextualized synchronic analysis because it enables us to study what was broadcasted simultaneously, before and after a given event or a specific program. However, archives especially call for historical diachronic analysis of longer time-spans and affords unique possibilities for coupling qualitative and quantitative methods and analysis. The following is an example of such a study combining an already existing qualitative study [Have 2018], with a large-scale study presented for the first time in this article. The combination of human close listening to the LARM.fm-archive and distant machine listening to the very same archive also prepare the ground for discussions of methodological strengths and challenges in Digital Humanities.

14

### 3: The case study

The close listening case study of the development of the share of music and speech focuses on the most popular music radio program *Go' Morgen P3* (Good Morning P3) broadcasted on the national radio channel P3. The channel has existed on the frequency modulation band (FM) since 1963 and *Go' Morgen P3* was launched in November 1989 playing music from 6 to 9 a.m. on weekdays. Except from a shifting variety of hosts and host constellations the program appears rather stable during the decades.

15

The aim of the case study was to test the hypothesis that from 1989 to 2016 *Go' Morgen P3* developed from having recorded music as the most important content of the programs (qualitatively as well as quantitatively) to have increasingly emphasis on speech and entertaining hosts. In Have (2018) this hypothesis was discussed in the light of the introduction of computerized playlists and rotation systems in Danish public service radio in the 1990s, as well as the increasing competitive situation, involving commercial and digital radio stations and, not least, digital music streaming services. In this article we will only present selected results and methods from the case study relevant to the large-scale study.

16

We listened closely to five selected *Go' Morgen P3* programs broadcast between 6 and 9 a.m. on Wednesdays close to 1 November covering a period of 25 years. First, the programs were roughly annotated by Have using the categories

17

music, speech, other to get a first impression of the results. The category 'speech' includes only speech of the hosts and interviewees, while the category 'other' covers news, sport, weather forecasts, jingles, channel advertisements etc. Then the counting was independently validated and fine-tuned by student assistants.<sup>[3]</sup> Choosing the same weekday at the same time of the year renders yearly comparisons more valid and Wednesdays around 1 November are not influenced by bank or festive holidays. The aim was to ensure that the five programs were evenly distributed throughout the time span, but due to few accessible programs from the first years of the millennium in the LARM.fm archive it ended up with five programs from 1992, 1998, 2006, 2011 and 2016 respectively [Have 2018].

To ensure that the program from 1992 was representative for the early 1990s and not affected by the institutional restructuring and formatting of radio channels in DR that year, registrations from the previous years were included for comparison: 31 October, 1990 and 30 October, 1991. As shown in Figure 3, the distribution between the categories was rather even, which confirmed that 1992 was not different from the previous two years. Unfortunately, the program from 2006 appeared to be unusual because it has technical problems in the studio, which gave rise to the use of some unplanned “rescue music” during the first 15 minutes, and therefore the music takes up more time than expected. However, that was discovered so late in the process that we kept it in the case study.

18

The registrations of the content of the five/seven programs point to some stable as well as evolving elements during the period. The basic format remained fairly stable over the years, but there were significant changes in the content of *Go' Morgen P3* and the relations between music and hosts. During the 25 years there was a change from one host's talking filling out the gaps between the musical tracks to music as something filling out the gaps between a group of 3-4 hosts. However, as shown in Table 2 there were only a slight decrease of recorded music but in general more host speak during the years. The analysis showed that the amount of speech has increased, but not so much to the detriment of music (as expected) as to “other” [Have 2018].

19

However, a close listening to the programs revealed that the emphasis on music *in* the talk has gradually been disappearing. The time spent on introducing the music decreases radically and the link between the music and the hosts has correspondingly weakened during the past 25 years, finally disappearing from the program in 2016. The five/seven examples illustrate that in the early 1990s there was a strong connection between the music and the host, who chose the music and to some extent scripted speech of him- or herself. And almost everything said between the tracks was about the music. After the introduction of playlists in the 1990s, this link was terminated, and the presentation is minimized in 2011 from “Chris Brown, *With You*” to a total disappearance in 2016.

20

Some elements of content are identical in all five programs namely the recorded music, the time announcements and channel/program adverts, but new, entertaining elements that are not related to music (satire, quizzes, and everyday news and actuality) are gradually introduced. This development together with the hosts' ignorance towards the music is pushing the music further into the background.

21

Date/Category	4 Nov. 1992	28 Oct. 1998	25 Oct. 2006	2 Nov. 2011	2 Nov. 2016
<b>Speak</b>	10.28 minutes	26.48	46.3	55.52	51.5
<b>Music</b>	116.52	92.5	100.32	91.45	101.95
<b>Other</b>	42.22	51.07	28.63	26.15	22.5

**Table 1.** Go' Morgen P3 programs in minutes divided between content categories.

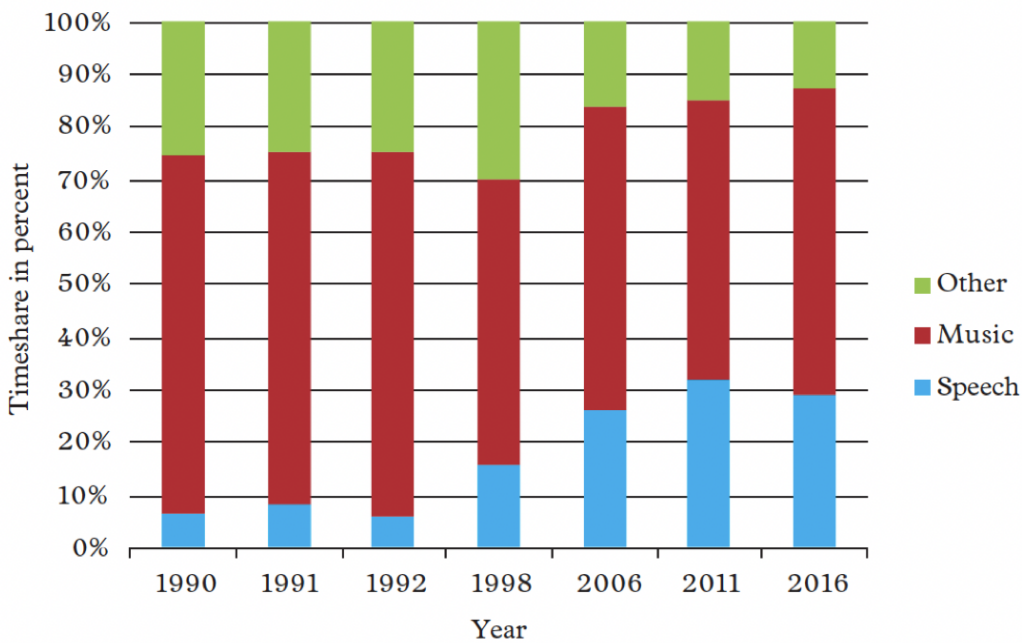


Figure 3. Same as Table 1, but here visualized in percentages and including 1990 and 1991.

On the basis of the findings from the case study, it was concluded that *Go' Morgen P3* evolved from being a radio program with a strong focus on music or at least with music as the most important content, to a program focusing on light, entertaining news and chatter of the hosts. This changed the status of the program from being a clear music-radio format where the recorded music is clearly significant and essential to being a more blurred soft-news format, where music takes many different roles, not only as musical pieces but also as underscore music and jingles important to the flow of the program. These observations enabled by a close listening to the programs combined with knowledge of Danish media politics and institutional changes in DR are of relevance for the large-scale analyses presented in the following section. Instead of relying on a small, curated and hand-annotated sample, this study utilizes thousands of radio programs to test the qualitative observations on data from LARM.fm. The study represents the first large-scale audio analysis in the Danish Media Collection.

22

#### 4: The large-scale study

In this study we take the existing study further by zooming out and letting a computer do the “listening” and “counting” — not on five/seven case studies but on a sample of the whole morning programming of P3 1989-2019 including the *Go' Morgen P3* schedule.<sup>[4]</sup> The study has been guided by the following research questions: How has the distribution of music and talk developed 1989-2019? How much music and how much speech? (classification). How long are the sequences with speech/music?

23

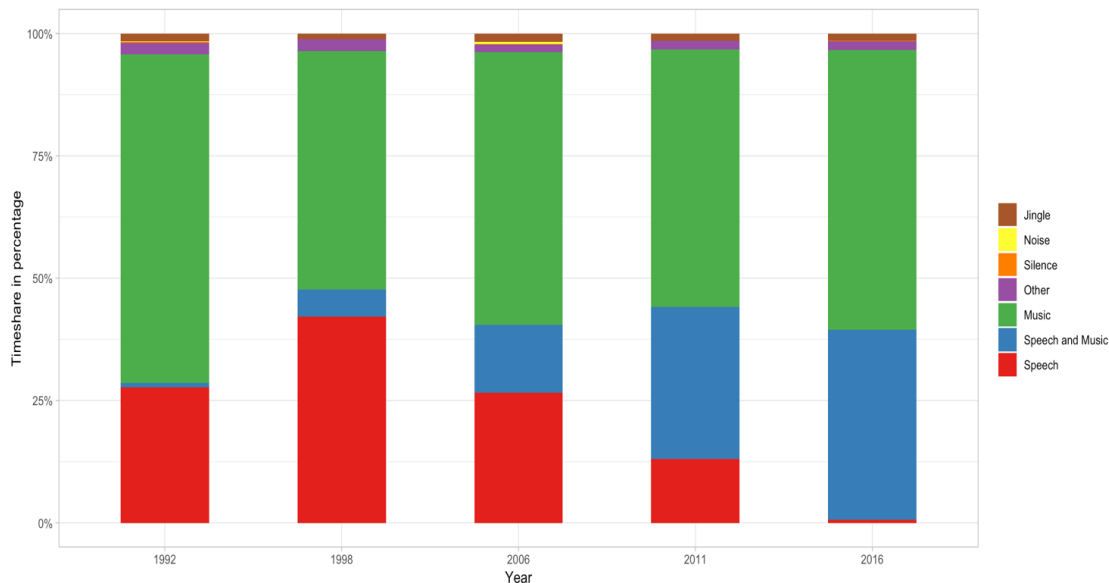
The corpus for analysis is all radio programs broadcasted at P3 1989-2019 between 6 a.m. and 12 a.m. and available as audio files in the Danish Media Collection and accessible through LARM.fm. The data in the corpus is divided in two corpora, resulting from different digitization processes: 1) Digitized radio files 1989-2005. 20,660 programs from 1989-01-01 to 2005-06-30 and 2) Born digital radio files 2005-2019. 24,456 programs from 2005-07-20 11:05:00 to 2019-05-28 14:03:00.<sup>[5]</sup> Since the material is copyright-protected, we made a processing agreement with the Royal Danish Library which allowed us to retrieve digital copies of the audio-files from the Media Collection needed for the project.

24

First, we repeated the manual coding of the five programs from the case study — this time through the open source multi-track audio editor and recorder Audacity — to be able to test the performance of a large-scale analysis. Doing the coding on the same material twice enhanced the reliability and as you can see by comparing Figure 4 with Figure 3 the diagrams are quite consistent from 2006-2016. However, the comparison also revealed some errors, since there is a

25

discrepancy in 1992 and 1998. So, we went back to LARM.fm to deep-listen to the programs and found some external program segments with more speech than usual in Go' Morgen P3 were included in the data. Those smaller inconsistencies further add to the need for quantitative analysis in cohort with a qualitative approach.



**Figure 4.** Result of coding in Audacity. Percentage of music and speech at the y-axis and years at the x-axis. The blue overlap “Speech and Music” counts as speech.

In the next step we utilize the trained model by Papakostas and Giannakopoulos (2018)<sup>[6]</sup> for Speech-Music discrimination, in which it is shown that a convolutional neural network (CNN) image-based classification on spectrograms obtain state-of-the-art performance. This model was trained by applying transfer-learning from a CNN trained on subset of the Imagenet [Deng et al. 2009]. In this approach each audio file is broken into overlapping mid-term segments of 2.4 seconds with a step of 1 second. A spectrogram is then derived for each segment after which the CNN trained by Papakostas and Giannakopoulos (2018) is used to discriminate between speech and music. Followingly, a median filter was used to smooth the signal. This could e.g. remove 1-second segments of speech in music, which is naturally very unlikely.<sup>[7]</sup> During testing, this image classification approach yield accuracy of approximately 93-98% on 11 hours of radio stream [Papakostas and Giannakopoulos 2018], while state-of-the-art audio-based classifiers obtain a performance of approximately 85-94%. For more on how the model was trained, its performance and audio to spectrogram preprocess we encourage the interested reader to examine the original study by Papakostas and Giannakopoulos (2018).

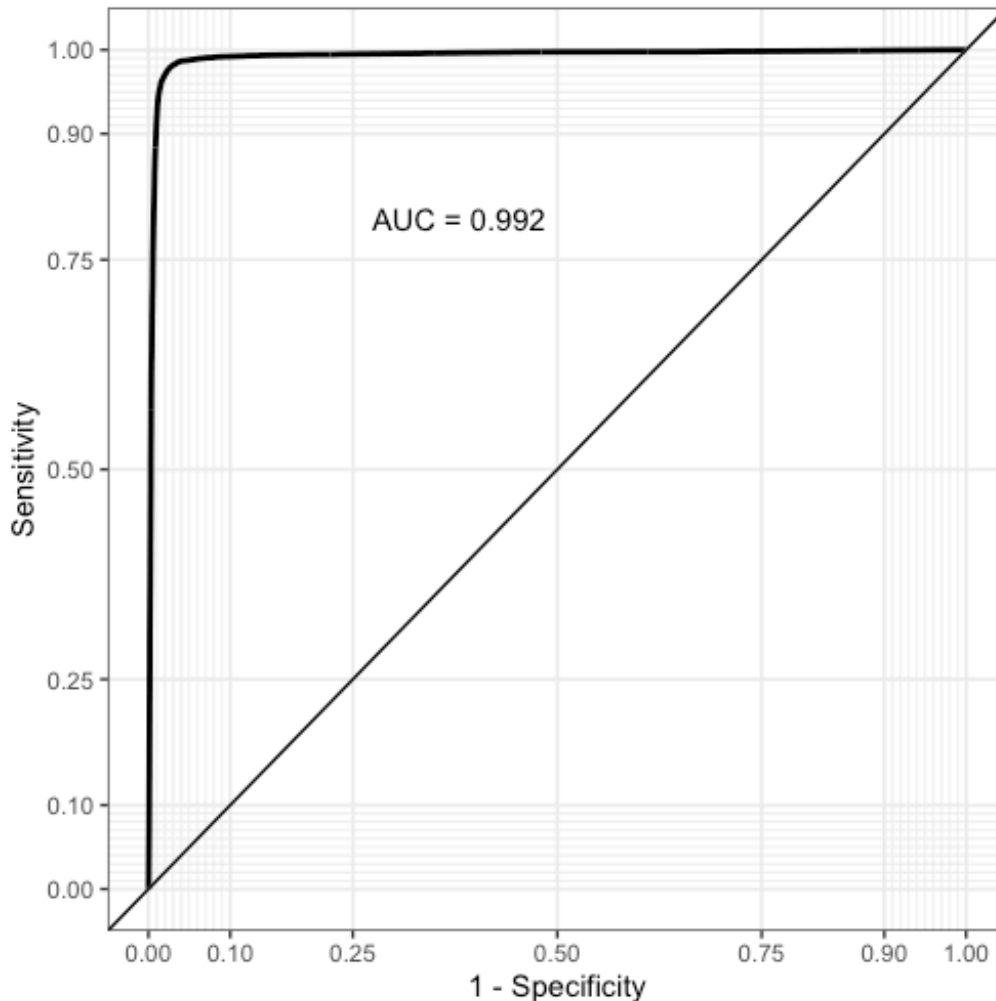
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As seen in Table 2 and Figure 5 these performance levels generalize well to Danish when comparing it with our coded dataset. For a comparison with an audio-based classifier we used the support vector machine (SVM) by Giannakopoulos (2015).

27

	Audio-based Classifier (SVM)	Image-based Classifier (CNN)
Accuracy (95% CI)	0.92 (0.920, 0.925)	0.98 (0.979, 0.982)
Balanced Accuracy	0.94	0.98
Sensitivity	0.98	0.99
Specificity	0.90	0.97
Pos Pred Value	0.80	0.94
Neg Pred Value	0.99	0.99
No Information Rate	0.70	0.70

**Table 2.** Performance using only the Speech and Music categories. Positive class is set as speech for reference.



**Figure 5.** ROC Curve showing the performance of the CNN when evaluated on the coded corpus. The area under the curve (AUC) is 0.99. The ROC curve shows the relation between the sensitivity and specificity. Sensitivity, also called true positive rate, is the proportion of speech segments correctly classified as speech, while specificity, also called the true negative rate, is the proportion of music segments correctly classified as music. The diagonal indicates a model which would guess at chance level. Note that it is always possible to get a specificity or sensitivity of 1, by always guessing one of the two categories.

These performance levels include only pure categories of speech and music, which does not represent the music radio programs, especially not after 2006 (see Figure 4) in which it is seen that the proportion of the mixed category speech and music is increased. Including “Speech and music” in the “speech” category and “jingles” in the “music” category, we see that the CNN obtains an accuracy of 0.96 (95% CI: 0.954, 0.957). Note that this includes categories which are



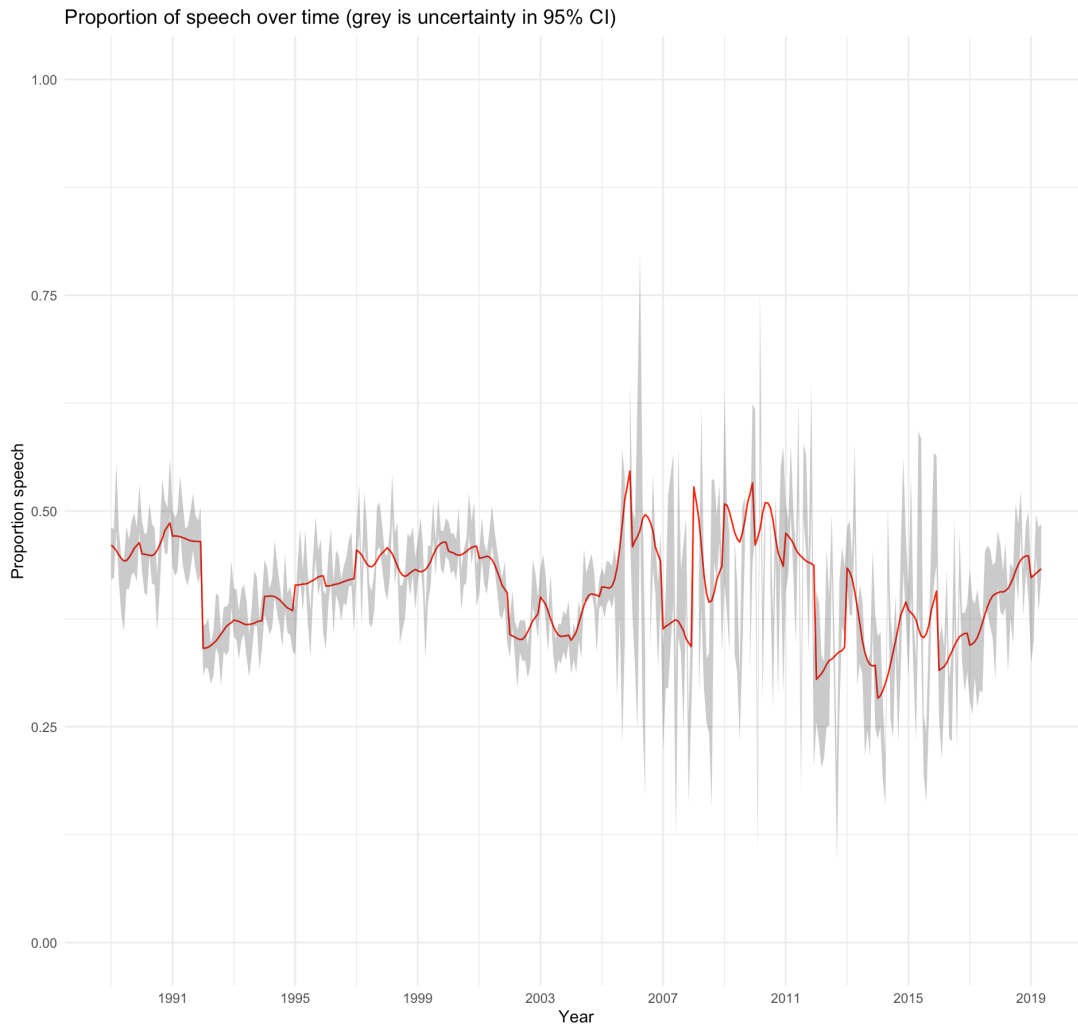
unpredictable by the CNN, such as noise and silence. Therefore, this is the likely performance which we will see over all categories, given the assumption that jingles are music and “speech and music” is speech.

This level of performance allows for large-scale analysis of the relationship between speech and music and while our approach focuses on speech and music classification in radio, it can be generalized to other audio media and audio recordings such as podcasts, audiobooks and music performances. It is also possible to alternate predictors and, for instance, include gender and mood and allow for multiple outcomes, such as speech, music and jingles.

The results of the analysis are shown in the following four Figures, which will be further discussed in the following section.

29

30



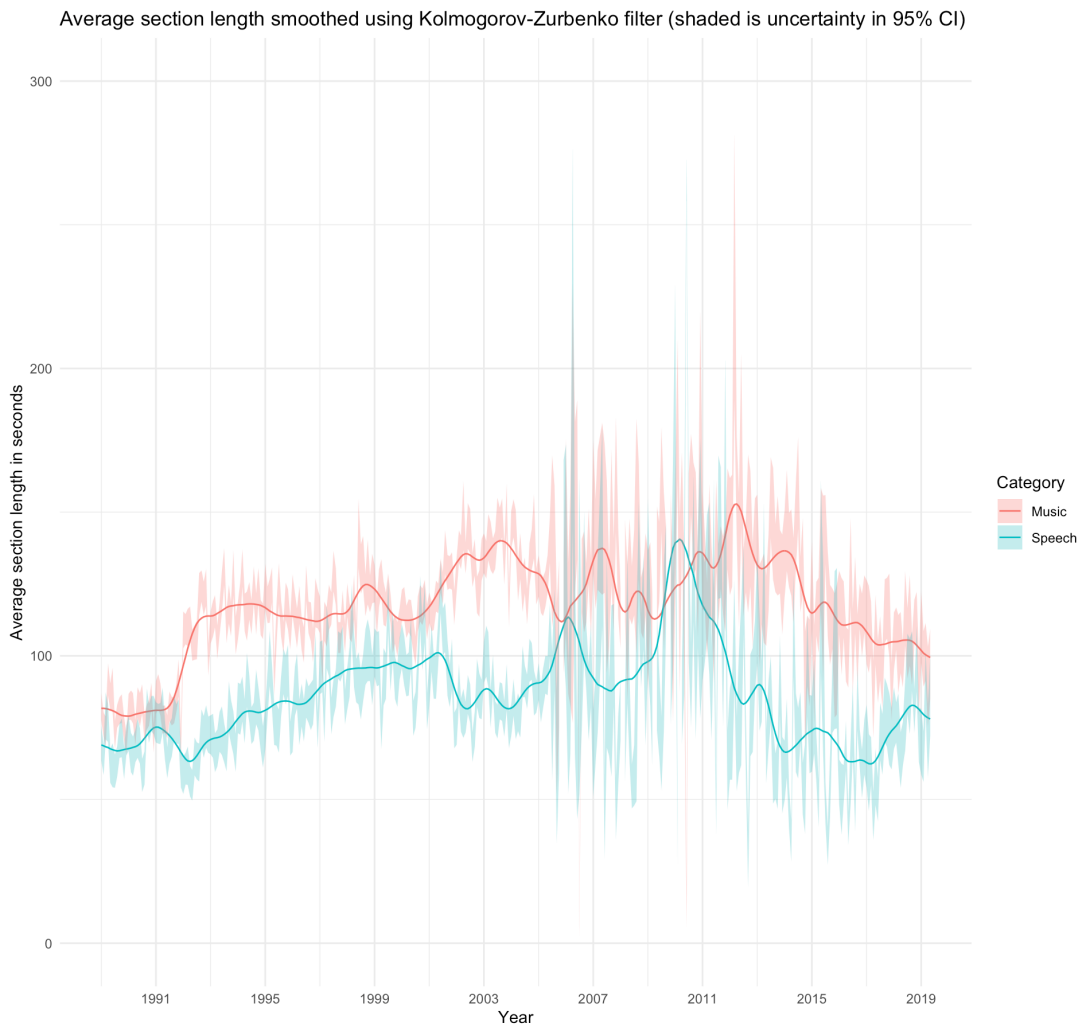
**Figure 6.** Shows proportion of speech over time as predicted by the model. Shaded area is uncertainty in 95% confidence interval. The data is smoothed using Kolmogorov-Zurbenko filter with a window size of 4 for easier interpretation.

In Figure 6 we measured the changes in the proportion of speech during the thirty years and notice significant changes around 1992 and 2001 and again in 2005. We also see an upward trend from 2016-2019.

31

Apart from the Music-Speech discrimination we also have an interest in how the length of the sequences with speech/music might change during the years. This interest came from the findings in the case study showing that the length of a musical track has been standardized, especially after the introduction of playlists, rotates systems and musical clock-schemes [Russo 2013].

32



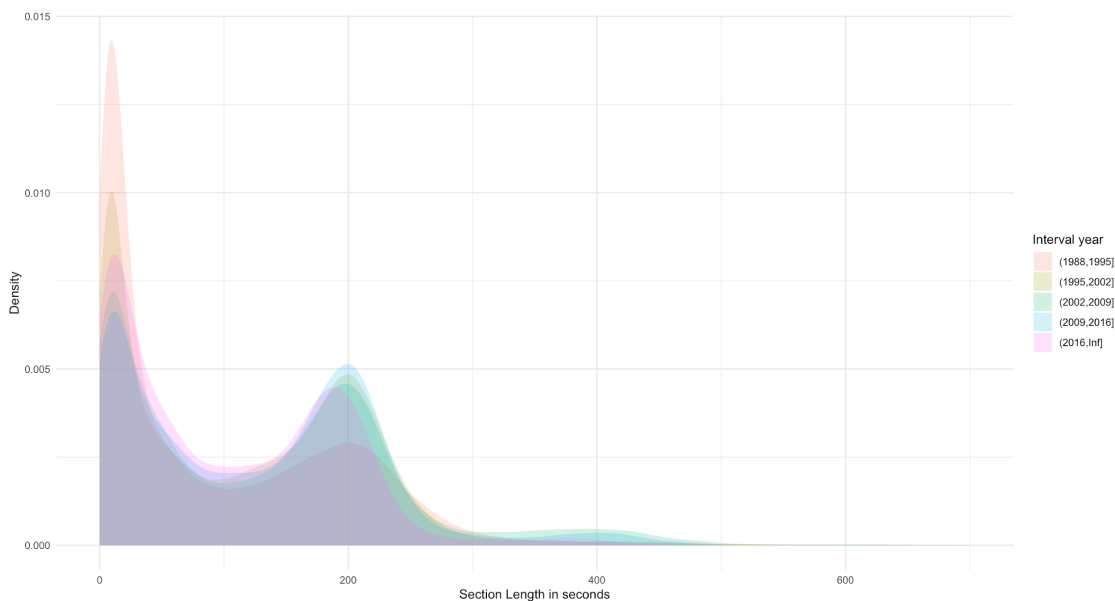
**Figure 7.** Average length in seconds over time as predicted by the model. Shaded area is uncertainty in 95% confidence interval. The data is smoothed using Kolmogorov-Zurbenko filter with a window size of 6 for easier interpretation. Note that if a section is interrupted, e.g. if a radio host interrupt a segment of music, with a segment of speech, this will result in the music segment being cut in half. Interpret the results accordingly.

Because we in Figure 7 present the mean length in seconds, the distribution is rather a Poisson distribution for speech and for music — a distribution which resembles a bimodal Poisson distribution (see Figure 8 and Figure 9). Note the increase in the average length of music in 1992 and the decline in music and speech length from 2011, which seems to indicate that there are shorter segments of both speech and music and consequently they must have switched more often. Additionally, we observe a rise in average speech length from 1992 until 1999.

33

To elaborate the findings from Figure 7 we grouped the numbers in seven-years-periods to make comparison of these segments in relation to speech and music, separately.

34



**Figure 8.** Proportion of music section length over time as predicted by the model. It can be seen that segments of music are typically short (less than 30 seconds) or approximately 200 seconds. Note the increase in segments of music around 200 seconds after 1995.

In Figure 8 and Figure 9 we pay attention to the first peak of very short segments of 10-20 seconds and the second peak around the 200 seconds - especially significant in relation to music.

35

## 5: Discussion and comparison with qualitative study

The study has analyzed some general tendencies in the development of the morning programming 6-12 a.m. at P3 1989-2019 by measuring the proportional distribution of music and speech and by measuring the length of music and speech segment respectively. When we look at the most visually striking changes in Figures 6 - 9, some years across the analysis seems note-worthy: 1992, 2001, 2005 and 2016.

36

Some important institutional and media political changes must be taken into account to explain the development. The official end of the monopoly in Danish radio came in 1983 when local radio stations were allowed for the first time; however, with regard to nationwide channels DR's monopoly was not fully broken until 2003. That means that P3 has been in an increasing competitive condition during the thirty years, which is further intensified by the competition from music streaming services like Spotify and iTunes from the latter half of the 2000s.

37

To meet the competition from the local and commercial music radio channels, P3's profile was strengthened with the formatting of DR's four radio channels in 1992 (P1, P2, P3 and *Danmarkskanalen* (from 1997: P4). Together with a more market-oriented strategy, a controversial playlist tool for music control was introduced and slowly implemented together with rotation systems during the 1990s, meaning that the music presenter no longer chooses the music for the program. This systematization and a standardization of the lengths of musical tracks might explain the increase in the average length of music in 1992 supported by the increase in segments of music around 200 seconds after 1995 in Figure 9.

38

If we look at Figure 6, we see significant changes around 1992 and 2001 and again in 2005. This generally confirms the case study in relation to the tendency of less speech in the early 1990s before the restructuring and formatting of DR's radio channels in 1992, and a growth peaking around 2011 and hereafter a decreasing tendency towards 2016. What is new in the large-scale study is, that we here see an upward trend in the proportion of speech from 2016 to 2019 reflecting a corresponding decrease in musical content.

39

The rise in the proportional amount of speech from 2005 to 2011 in Figure 6 can be explained by the increasing number of hosts in the studio (Figure 10). More hosts entail more talking. Have (2018) found that there were many different

40

hosts in the early years but only one host in the studio at a time (1989-2000), after which there was a relatively stable group of hosts of three to four who were all co-present in the studio (2005-2015). In the intervening years there was a short period with one or two hosts in the studio (2001-2004) [Have 2018, 132f].

1989-2000	One host in the studio.	Many alternating hosts (around 14 different names appear during a month). Uffe Stenstrop, Britta Rhode, Mikael Honoré, Carsten Wiedemann, Margeret Lindhardt, Jesper Bæhrenz, etc.
2001-2004	Varying between one host and a host couple.	Mads Steffensen, Jesper Dein, Lars Daneskov, Camilla Ottesen, Peter Palshøj, Christina Højer, etc.
2005-2015	Three to four hosts.	<i>The Morning Team</i> : A relatively stable team of four hosts with few changes.

**Figure 9.** Overview of the development of the changing host constellations in DR's morning music-radio show Go' Morgen P3 1989-2015. [Have 2018, 133].

The changes in 2005 might also be explained by a change in file format in the dataset. That year The Danish State Media Collection's procedure changed from digitizing the incoming material from the Danish media providers, to receiving it as born-digital as described above. While this change is positive, it leads to analysis on individual programs rather than the entire morning section. This leads to files which predominantly is music or speech hereby leading to increased uncertainty. To normalize across corpora each file was further split into segments of approximately 1,000 seconds leading less effect of outliers, however a noticeable difference still remains between the corpuses. As seen in Figure 8 and Figure 9, hardly any sections of music or speech is above 1,000 seconds. But we must still take an increase in uncertainty after 2005 into account.

41

In Figure 7 we see an increase in the average length of music from 1992 and a decline in music and speech length from 2011, which seems to indicate that there are shorter segment of both speech and music in the early years which might to some extent be explained by the practice of the host overlapping with the music and consequently music and speech are switching more often. The shift in 2011 might be explained by a general use of jingles and segments like quizzes and DR's own commercials. However, that does not correspond with Figure 4 showing a more stable category of "Other" between 2011 and 2016. The rise in average speech length from 1992 until 1999 can be explained by the fact that DR in relation to the reorganization in 1992 introduced more entertaining and chatty news communication as a part of Go' Morgen P3, which occupy half of the morning programs during the thirty years. In general, P3 after 1992 turned from being a purer music channel towards a more entertaining and communicative channel.

42

In Figure 8 and Figure 9 we pay attention to the first peak of very short segments of 10-20 seconds, which again can be explained by the overlapping host talk in the early years, and the second peak around the 200 seconds — especially significant in relation to music. This observation is interesting because it confirms a standardization in the lengths of musical tracks played in the radio after the restructuring in 1992. It is an example of what Have (2018) calls a *radiotization* of music, which means that the logic of radio dictate parts of the creative processes of the musicians. In other words: If you want to be played in the radio, you must compose tracks close to 3 minutes and 20 seconds to fit into the flow of the musical clock structure. The clock format is based on the structure of an hour divided in segments of speech and music (see e.g. [Hendy 2000], 94ff for an introduction to the so-called clock format [Michelsen et al. 2018a, 192f] [Russo 2013]). The structure of well over 3 minutes per segment has proven to be the best to maintain the listeners on the channel — a perfect balance between recognizability and renewal. As the playlists in the case study show, the variation in the music became narrower after the introduction of the playlist tool, and as shown in Figure 9 the length of the individual sections of music have become more stable during the years confirming a more controlled and computer-calculated playlist and structure.

43

Apart from the specific results of the changes in the Danish radio channel P3, this article also has an interest in the methodological discussions of deep and distant listening. The opportunity to move back and forth between the existing

44

case study and the large-scale study — you might call it a meso scale listening approach — has made the analysis not just more solid in relation to the existing findings but also in relation to filling the gaps of each method. Risks of cherry picking in relation to the qualitative case study have been dismissed, and Figure 6 added a more nuanced perspective to the case study by showing a quite variable amount of speech during the years. However, with an upward trend from 2016-2019, which is the period not included in the case-study. So, the large-scale study also gave rise to new questions, such as, why do we see an increasing amount of speech from 2016 and onwards? An explanation could be the increasing competitive situation, both from commercial digital music radio stations and digital music streaming services. In this competitive field of musical content DR and P3 turn towards one of their core competences as a public service institution, to offer professional journalistic content presented by well-known young personas in an entertaining way. That strategy turns P3 even more away from being the music channel it once was towards an entertaining and communicative radio channel.

Many of the eye-catching changes in Figures 6-9 can be explained from institutional changes in DR, but the significant change in 2005 cannot. That gave rise to questioning not the classifier but the data, which changed format in 2005. This is valuable knowledge not only in this study but in future large-scale studies of the LARM.fm archive. Working with the LARM.fm archive as reverse-engineering Humanists has given insights in some of the challenges of large-scale archive analysis calling for critical attention to significant oscillation, which is not always anchored in the actual changes in the content of the data but in the formats providing this content.

45

A main aim of this study in total has been to analyze whether there has been a development from recorded music being the most important content to an increasing emphasis on spoken words. The close listening approach enabled a study of how the music was presented by the hosts in the program and confirmed the qualitatively change from a host filling out the gaps between the musical tracks by talking about the music in the early 1990s to music as something filling out the gaps between a group of hosts, who do not relate to the music at all. However, the large-scale study enabled us to correct or at least nuance the findings further by demonstrating that the general amount of speech has actually not increased but is varying during the 30 years period, as shown in Figure 6. From the large-scale study we learned that the diachronic changes in the share of music and speech are less significant than initially expected. This points to the fact that picking single case studies (even if sampled deliberately) can lead to doubtful conclusion if not reflected on a background of the full radio programming. At this point our study clearly shows strengths and weaknesses of the two approached and why it generates more valid answers to combine them.

46

## 6: Conclusion: Combining close to distant listening

This study has compared a case study of five Danish music radio programs (1990-2016) to a large-scale study of the whole morning programming (6 to 12 a.m) of the music channel P3 1989-2019. Both studies are anchored in the data from Danish digital archive and infrastructure LARM.fm, which is offering new paths for radio and media studies by affording deep listening studies as well as large-scale distant listening studies. The study is the first to present a large-scale analysis of the huge amount of data from the Danish radio archive. Inspired by Papakostas and Giannakopoulos we applied a convolutional neural network (CNN) image-based classification on spectrograms, which was obtaining state-of-the-art performance. For a comparison with an audio-based classifier we used the support vector machine (SVM) by Giannakopoulos (2015). As demonstrated in Table 2 and Figure 5 the classifier tools developed from Papakostas and Giannakopoulos performed with high accuracy and the performance levels generalized well to Danish. This is useful insight to bring into future studies of automated speech recognition in Digital Humanities: For instance, how the analytical results found in a small amount of data can successfully be generalized to a large amount of data, and how models of speech-music discrimination can successfully be transferred across languages (Danish and English in this case). We also expect that the model developed in this article can be trained in relation to other tasks such as gender detection or regional accent detection.

47

The findings in the study confirms that the political and institutional changes in Danish music radio leave their imprint in the content of the programs. For instance, when we register more standardized formats and segments after the restructuring in 1992. But the most eye-catching protrusion of Figure 6 in 2005 must be explained by a change of format caused by a shift from digitized to born digital files in the archive. Thereby the study also contributes with an example of

48

how it is important to include reflections on the constitution and possible changes in the data when doing large-scale analysis.

In general, we can conclude that the combination of a close listening and a distant listening approach has given us a more saturated picture of the development of the morning music radio programming at P3 from 1989 to 2019. The combination both enables us to give more valid answers to how the distribution of music and talk has changed during the period but it also brings forward some strengths and shortcomings of the qualitative case study and the large-scale analysis, respectively. Finally, we hope that this study can contribute to encouraging Digital Humanities scholars to include more audio content analysis in relation to the field of Media Studies.

## Notes

[1] See for instance the activities at International Society for Music Information Retrieval (<https://ismir.net/>), including the journal Transactions of the International Society for Music Information Retrieval (<https://transactions.ismir.net/>).

[2] For a more thorough description of LARM.fm we refer to Have and Nielsen 2016.

[3] The registrations for the case study was done by the help of student assistant Caroline Skov. The registrations of the same programs for the large-scale study was done by the help of student assistant Martha Jepsen.

[4] The computational part of the project is supported by DeIC's National Cultural Heritage Cluster and Royal Danish Library providing HPC-facilities, and developed together with Center for Humanities Computing Aarhus.

[5] The timespan of the material from 2005-2019 shows that it will take four years, one month and fourteen days to listen to it all.

[6] The model along with code is available at Papakostas' Github.

[7] Notably if the CNN was retrained to predict other classes, this might result in short segments such as jingles being smoothed out, which would be undesirable.

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